



## MACOMB FEEDING THE NEED

*"To feed the needs of the community, mind, body, spirit and soul".*

### HOUSE BILL 4017-MARCH 11, 2015-10:30am

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#### HOW TO INSURE SAFETY

All food donated should be prepared by a Serv Safe certified kitchen. Thus ensure that all food is being prepared in a safe time and temperature. All food should be transported safely in temperature-controlled containers. As well as being either cooked or refrigerated or frozen within 6 hours, so it can be distributed safely.

#### WHY THE NEED

At MACOMB FEEDING THE NEED (A COMMUNITY KITCHEN), we feed anywhere from 60 to 300 individuals in a single feeding!! Most of the clientele come in for a continental breakfast, a hot lunch and a bagged lunch to go. For many of the people coming it's the only nutritious meals they receive all week long. We serve well-balanced meals, with lots of fresh vegetables, and starches, and protein. But we are struggling to keep offering the protein they need. Restaurants and groceries don't donate their meats and dairy because they are afraid of being sued. Instead they throw them out, one chain actually throws lye on their meat so no one can use it. This meat is labeled SELL-BY (There is nothing wrong with it) and on that date they toss that food in a dumpster and lye is thrown on it. That meat is still good and could be prepared up in our kitchen by certified Chefs to feed the community. Or prepared and frozen to be given to others in need. The same goes for Milk, Butter and Cheese, important proteins that are still good if used immediately or frozen (which we do).

We serve the Macomb County poor, the Homeless, the near homeless with small children and the elderly. We have seen an increase in elderly and children. Protein is an important and vital part of their diet. We are asking you to pass this bill to ensure that we are able to continue to feed the needy with the help of these business owners without them worrying about the repercussions of being punished for doing so. No one should have to worry about being sued for feeding the needy for free.

#### A FEW FACTS AS TO WHY IT'S NEEDED

The rate of young children in the county qualifying for food assistance increased 83 percent, compared to a statewide rise of 55 percent.

"The number of children eligible for food assistance doubled to include 17,000 children," Zehnder-Merrell said. "At the same time, the number of children who qualified for free and reduced cost lunch jumped from 22,000 to 32,000. That's a pretty significant increase."

Source Macomb Daily Article *By Maryanne Kocis MacLeod*

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## **LANDFILLS**

According to research by a former University of Arizona anthropologist, Timothy Jones reveals that 40% of all food products in America is not eaten. That amounts to more than 29 million tons of food waste each year, or enough to fill the Rose Bowl every three days. Nationwide, food scraps make up 17 percent of what we send to landfills.

Type of food filling our landfills: perfectly good produce, dairy, meat and bakery items. Wasting food uses time, energy, and resources—both money and oil.

Food rotting in landfills contributes to global warming. When food decomposes it releases methane, a greenhouse gas 21 times more damaging than carbon dioxide. Wet food waste is the main threat to groundwater or stream pollution.

## **PEOPLE IN NEED**

16.8% of the state population are “food insecure people” not knowing where their next meal is coming from or when. Over 1.6 million citizens of the State of Michigan alone go hungry. This is above the national average of 15.9 percent. Children comprise 22.3 percent of the food insecure population.

Source: Feeding America with the generous contribution from The ConAgra Foundation, The Neilson Company and the Howard G. Buffett Foundation

## **INSURE SAFETY**

All food being donated should be prepared by a ServSafe certified kitchen. This ensures that all food will be prepared in a safe time and temperature manner. All food will be cooked or frozen within 24 hours, so can be distributed to people in need safely.

The need is for refrigerated and frozen items i.e. meat, dairy, juice. This is why we need YOUR HELP!

Illustration: A woman who ate out of the dumpster 6 days a week ate donated food from a restaurant and claimed to get sick. It took 4 years to settle the law suit in the restaurant favor, costing the company \$20,000.00 in attorney fees and earned them a bad reputation.

## **WHY WE CARE - Someone HAS to**

We at Passport Pizza received not only the Michigan Award, but also the National Restaurant Association 2014 Good Neighbor Award for doing the most community service in the nation of any restaurant. In our heart we do not want any food to go to waste while 50,000 children in Macomb County are going to bed hungry every night. Meanwhile thousands of pounds of meat, dairy, produce and bakery items being thrown away due to liability issues.

Passport Pizza was mentioned in the Duke University - Sanford School of Public Policy “Increasing Restaurant Food Donations: A Strategy for Food Waste Diversion” for our part in reducing food waste and providing food for the people in need. We are a conduit for over 500 pallets of food a year.

What is food insecurity and what does it look like in America?

How is program eligibility determined?

What is the safety net for people who are food insecure?

How do you calculate the dollars needed and the meal costs?



## What is food insecurity and what does it look like in America?

Food insecurity refers to **limited access** of lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods.

Food insecure households are not necessarily food insecure all the time. Food insecurity may reflect a household's need to make trade-offs between important basic needs, such as housing or medical bills, and purchasing nutritionally adequate foods.

Select your state and county from our interactive map above and start learning more about your neighbors struggling with hunger and the food banks that serve them.

Read more about the findings of Map the Meal Gap in our **Report the State of Food Insecurity by Congressional District** or learn **How we got the data**.

Feeding America undertook the Map the Meal Gap project, with the generous support of the Howard G. Buffett Foundation and The Nielsen Company, to learn more about food insecurity at the local community level.

## How You Can Help Feeding America Solve Hunger

## Resources for More Information

### General Information

- EPA Organic Materials web page: [www.epa.gov/foodrecovery](http://www.epa.gov/foodrecovery)
- EPA and USDA, Waste Not/Want Not: A Guide for Feeding the Hungry and Reducing Solid Waste Through Food Recovery: [www.epa.gov/epawaste/conservation/wast\\_not.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conservation/wast_not.pdf)
- Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service: [www.csees.usda.gov/](http://www.csees.usda.gov/)

### Food Donation

- Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act: [www.usda.gov/news/pubs/gleaning/appc.htm](http://www.usda.gov/news/pubs/gleaning/appc.htm)

### Animal Feed

- USDA's list of state veterinarians: [www.aphis.usda.gov/import\\_export/downloads/insvlic.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/downloads/insvlic.pdf)
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's directory of state health departments: [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/International/telres.html](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/International/telres.html)

### Composting

- EPA Composting Web site: [www.epa.gov/composting](http://www.epa.gov/composting)
- U.S. Composting Council: [www.compostingcouncil.org](http://www.compostingcouncil.org)
- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Supermarket Composting Handbook: [www.mass.gov/deh/recycle/reduce/smbhandbk.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/deh/recycle/reduce/smbhandbk.pdf)



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Washington, DC 20460  
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## Putting Surplus Food To Good Use

Every day, food service providers, such as supermarkets, hospitals, universities, restaurants, and food preparation companies, make decisions about what to do with surplus or leftover food. This surplus food, also known as food scraps, food waste, or organic materials, includes all prepared foods, produce, bakery and dairy items, and meat. There are many ways food service providers can improve the environment and provide benefits to communities by reducing, reusing, and recycling uneaten or unused food rather than throwing it away. This guide helps food service providers start a food waste reduction and recovery program at their facilities.

### To Recover or Not to Recover: Why Do It?

Separating and managing your excess food can result in both economic and environmental benefits.

#### Economics: It Pays to Reduce and Recover Food Resources

Reducing and recovering excess food may save you money by:

- Decreasing disposal fees. Food banks and renderers often provide free pick-ups for excess food, and composting fees can be less than landfill/incineration tipping fees.
- Decreasing sewer treatment and electricity costs since food waste is not going down the drain.
- Decreasing purchasing costs because you are only buying what is needed.
- Increasing tax deductions for food donations to charities.
- Increasing revenue from selling compost made from food scraps.

#### Environment: Saving Resources and Reducing Waste

Putting surplus food to good use benefits the environment by:

- Creating a nutrient-rich soil amendment when composted, which improves overall soil health.
- Eliminating potential dumpster issues such as odors, pests, and fires.
- Conserving landfill space and decreasing methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills.
- Decreasing the volume of waste managed at incinerators, which reduces air emissions and the volume of incinerator ash that needs to be landfilled.

Source  
Reduction

Feed  
People

Feed  
Animals

Industrial  
Uses

Composting



### Shopping for Change

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the Massachusetts Food Association partnered to increase organic recycling at supermarkets in their state. These two organizations established a voluntary supermarket recycling certification program to promote recycling and reusing food waste and other materials. Participating supermarkets save money and receive both positive recognition and waste load inspection regulatory relief. In August 2005, 62 supermarkets, nine haulers, and six composting facilities achieved a 60 to 75 percent recycling rate of food scraps and other organics. The supermarkets reportedly saved \$3,000 to \$30,000 annually per store by simply diverting organics.

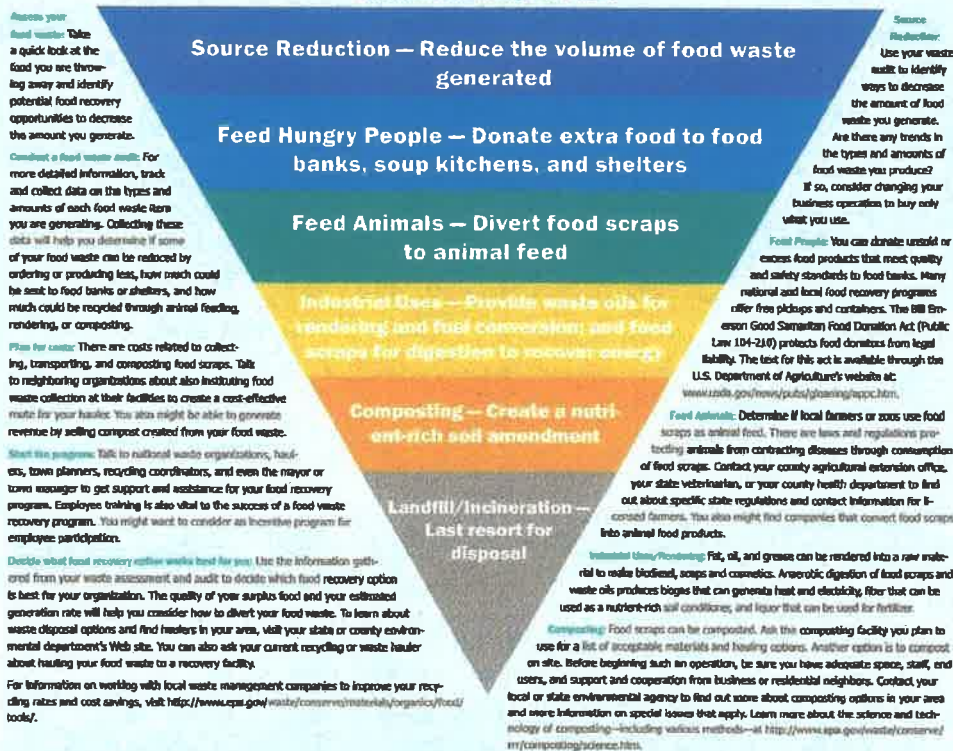


### A Lesson in Successful Partnerships

The San Francisco Recycling Program (SFRRP) used stakeholder involvement to create a successful composting program at local schools. SFRRP and Sunset Sciences, a division of Marcal Waste Systems, met with interested teachers, principals, administrators, and custodial staff to discuss roles and responsibilities during the different steps in the composting process. Stakeholder meetings allowed SFRRP to identify and solve potential problems and foster a sense of responsibility needed to sustain its programs. SFRRP's stakeholder involvement also led to student and parent interest in food waste recovery. In 2000, the four public elementary schools and one private high school participating in the program diverted nearly 200 pounds of food scraps daily. The City of San Francisco uses its successful partnership approach to expand its food diversion program to hospitals, composting facilities, dairy farmers, local colleges, and other organizations.

## Reducing and Recovering Surplus Food

Surplus food can be beneficially used in a variety of ways. The food recovery hierarchy prioritizes methods of reducing food waste.



### Food for Thought

- Coca-Cola sends leftover food from its cafeterias and banquets to Atlanta's Table, a local branch of Foodchain (a network of prepared and perishable food rescue programs).
- Shawfield Farm Yogurt donates leftover yogurt to local farm farms.
- The University of Vermont composts 115 tons of its dining hall food waste per year for an annual savings of nearly \$11,000 in avoided landfill tipping fees.



### Hungry for the Basic Facts

- Almost half the food in the United States goes to waste.
  - Food is now the #1 material sent to landfills and incinerators each year.
  - Food waste makes up almost 14 percent of all the municipal solid waste generated in the United States.
  - Less than 3 percent of food waste is recovered.
  - Food waste losses account for up to \$100 billion per year; \$30-40 billion occurring within the commercial or retail sector (e.g., restaurants, convenience stores) and \$20 billion from farming and food processing.
- To learn more about food waste, visit [www.epa.gov/foodrecovery](http://www.epa.gov/foodrecovery)

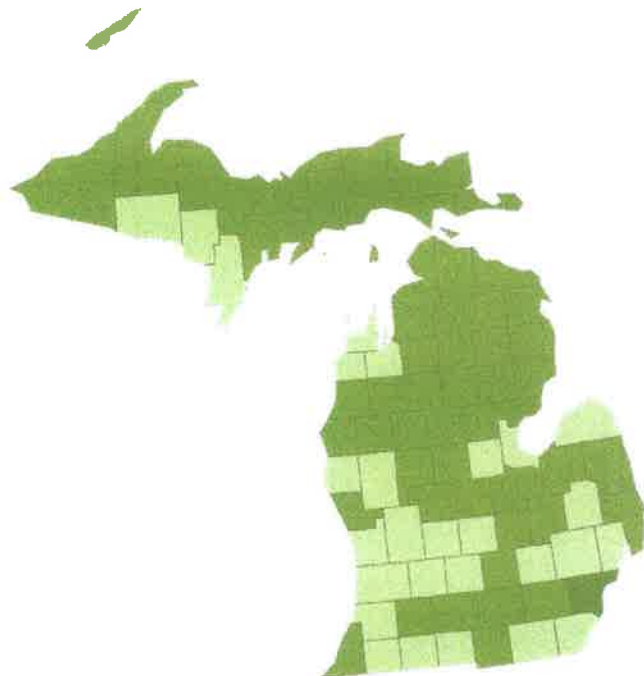
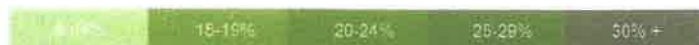


# Michigan



## 2013 FOOD INSECURITY & FOOD COST IN THE US

### Overall Food Insecurity Rates



### AVERAGE MEAL COST

 **\$2.57**

National average cost of a meal is \$2.79

### TOP COUNTIES WITH THE HIGHEST FOOD INSECURITY RATES

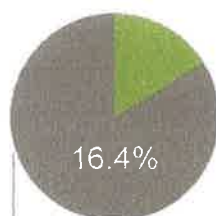
Wayne  
Lake  
Isabella  
Baraga  
Genesee

### FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE

1,623,410



### FOOD INSECURITY RATE



### ESTIMATED PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AMONG FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE



Above SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold of 200% poverty

Below SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold 200% poverty

Hunger exists in every corner of the United States, but as Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap study shows, food insecurity looks different from one county to the next. In addition to providing data about the prevalence of food insecurity at the local level, Map the Meal Gap estimates the share of food insecure individuals who are income-eligible for federal anti-hunger programs and provides local variations in food costs. The study finds that many food insecure individuals do not

qualify for federal nutrition programs and must rely on charitable food assistance, suggesting that complementary programs and strategies are necessary to reach food insecure individuals at different income levels. By providing information about hunger at the local level, Map the Meal Gap can help policymakers and service providers identify strategies to best reach those in need of assistance.

Visit [feedingamerica.org/mapthegap](http://feedingamerica.org/mapthegap) for more information.  
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# Map the Meal Gap 2015 Documents Hunger in Every County and Congressional District in the Nation

Child Food Insecurity Exists In America's Most Affluent Communities

April 14, 2015

Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization, today released a new study, *Map the Meal Gap 2015*, which finds that food insecurity exists in every county and congressional district in the nation.

Food insecurity is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's measure of lack of access at times to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members.

This is the fifth year the data have been compiled.

There are eight counties in the nation with median household incomes above \$100,000, yet each of these counties have child food-insecurity rates above 10%. This includes four counties in Virginia: Falls Church City, Fairfax, Arlington and Loudoun. In fact, Loudoun is the wealthiest county in the U.S. with a median household income of \$122,000, but is also home to more than 10,000 food-insecure children.

Other affluent counties with notable rates of child food insecurity are:

- Howard County, Maryland, where the median household income is \$110,000, yet 15% of its children – more than 11,000 – are food insecure.
- Los Alamos County, New Mexico has a total population of 18,000 people with a median household income of \$107,000, yet nearly 18% of its children – nearly 800 – are food insecure.
- Douglas County, Colorado has a median household income of \$102,000, yet nearly 15% of its children – more than 13,000 – are food insecure.

Other key findings from the report include:

**Food Insecurity at the County Level**

- The county with the highest rate of food insecurity in America is Holmes County, Mississippi, where a third of the population, 33.4%, is food insecure.
- Los Angeles County is home to the largest estimated population of food-insecure people – nearly 1.5 million – a 14.7% food-insecurity rate.
- Slope County, North Dakota has the lowest rate of food insecurity of any county in the nation at 4.2%.

#### Food Insecurity among Children at the County Level

- Child food insecurity exists in every county where there are children, ranging from 6.2% in Billings County, North Dakota to 43% in Apache County, Arizona, home to Navaho Nation, Fort Apache and Zuni American Indian reservations.
- The largest estimated population of food-insecure children is Los Angeles County. Nearly 600,000 children, 1 in 4, live at risk of hunger.
- There are more than 400,000 food-insecure children across the five boroughs of New York City.

#### Race

- The report finds that hunger disproportionately affects counties where the majority of the population is black or American Indian.
- The report also finds that some of the counties with the most abundant farm lands that produce millions of pounds of fruits, vegetables and other agricultural products also have many families with children at risk of hunger. Fresno, Imperial, Kings, Merced, Monterey and Tulare counties in California all have a higher than average child food-insecurity rate and are also among the top 10 agricultural producers. All six counties have a majority Latino population.

#### Local Meal Cost and Food Budget Shortfall

- In addition to rates of food insecurity, *Map the Meal Gap 2015* estimates the relative cost of an average meal by county.
- The lowest meal cost is \$1.97 in Maverick County, Texas.
- The highest meal cost is \$5.01 in Crook County, Oregon.
- The meal-cost data demonstrates that 26.4 million food-insecure people live in areas where food costs are higher than the national average.
- The food price data and analysis was provided by Nielsen (NYSE: NLSN), a global provider of information and insights.
- The report estimates that food-insecure American households have a total "food budget shortfall" of \$24.2 billion, compared to \$23.5 billion in last year's report, an increase of \$700 million.

#### Food Insecurity at the Congressional District Level Lowest Rates

##### Highest Rates

District	Food Insecurity Rate (2013)	# of Food Insecure Persons (2013)	Child Food Insecurity Rate (2013)	# of Food Insecure Children (2013)
Congressional District 13, Michigan	29.3%	197,340	30.5%	50,890

Congressional District 2, Mississippi	28.7%	208,530	32.5%	60,490
Congressional District 11, Ohio	28.1%	194,480	30.3%	48,770
Congressional District 5, Florida	27.4%	199,970	31.6%	58,270
Congressional District 9, Tennessee	26.9%	191,540	29.2%	52,900
Congressional District 7, Alabama	26.6%	177,700	29.1%	43,240
Congressional District 14, Michigan	26.5%	187,000	26.0%	42,480
Congressional District 2, Pennsylvania	26.3%	187,150	24.4%	34,930
Congressional District 12, North Carolina	26.2%	202,960	30.5%	60,180
Congressional District 1, North Carolina	26.1%	188,920	30.2%	50,480

#### Lowest Rates

District	Food Insecurity Rate (2013)	# of Food Insecure Persons (2013)	Child Food Insecurity Rate (2013)	# of Food Insecure Children (2013)
Congressional District 10, Virginia	6.0%	47,080	12.0%	26,010
Congressional District 3, New York	6.8%	49,590	14.7%	24,070
Congressional District 2, New York	6.9%	49,430	14.8%	23,610
Congressional District 1, New York	7.4%	53,270	16.2%	25,710
Congressional District 11, Virginia	7.4%	56,590	12.7%	23,120
Congressional District 7, New Jersey	7.6%	56,570	12.8%	22,570
Congressional District (at Large), North Dakota	7.8%	56,430	10.4%	16,780
Congressional District 6, Illinois	7.9%	57,760	15.4%	27,700
Congressional District 8, Maryland	7.9%	59,350	16.9%	29,120
Congressional District 4, New York	8.2%	58,570	15.7%	25,070



*Map the Meal Gap 2015* is based on an analysis of statistics collected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Census Bureau, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2013, the most recent year for which data is available.

The study is supported by the founding sponsor The Howard G. Buffett Foundation as well as the ConAgra Foods Foundation and Nielsen. The lead researcher is Dr. Craig Gundersen, professor of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois, executive director of the National Soybean Research Laboratory and member of Feeding America's Technical Advisory Group.

"Feeding America will provide food and groceries to more than 46 million Americans this year who are living on the brink of hunger," said Bob Aiken, CEO of Feeding America. "*Map the Meal Gap 2015* provides unique insight into the prevalence of food insecurity in each county and congressional district in our nation. It will help policy makers and our elected officials understand the challenges they face in addressing hunger in the communities they serve."

"We must shine a light on the hidden hunger crisis in America if we want to make our nation stronger and create a brighter future for everyone," said Howard G. Buffett, Chairman and CEO of The Howard G. Buffett Foundation and founding sponsor of Map the Meal Gap. "This data is a powerful tool that we hope will educate people about hunger in their own communities, and more importantly, compel all of us to work to address the issue."

"Our Foundation funded Map the Meal Gap because all Americans, especially policymakers, need to realize that hunger is a serious problem in our country—one that directly impacts our future prosperity," Buffett continued. "These statistics demonstrate the need for strong hunger-relief programs like Feeding America. Longer-term, we need more permanent solutions that improve the economic opportunities available to people who are prone to food insecurity."

*Map the Meal Gap 2015* provides the following data for each county in the United States in an [interactive map format](#):

- The percentage of the population who is food insecure.
- The percentage of the food-insecure population who likely qualify based on income for SNAP (formerly the Food Stamp Program) and other federal nutrition programs.
- The percentage of the food-insecure population who likely do NOT qualify for federal nutrition programs and often must rely on charitable food assistance programs. These are households reporting earnings higher than the federal programs income eligibility limits.
- The average price per meal in each county.

A summary of the findings, an interactive map of the United States, and the full report are available at [map.feedingamerica.org](http://map.feedingamerica.org).

Join the conversation about *Map the Meal Gap 2015* on Twitter using [#MealGap](#).

## Contact

Please contact one of our [media representatives](#) or call 800-771-2303

## About Feeding America



# Map the Meal Gap 2015:

## Overall Food Insecurity in Michigan by County in 2013<sup>1</sup>



County	Population	Food insecurity rate	Estimated number food insecure individuals (rounded)	Likely Income Eligibility for Federal Nutrition Assistance	
				% below 200% poverty	% above 200% poverty
				SNAP, AMIC, free school meals, OBP, TEFAP	Charitable Response
Alcona	10,785	14.7%	1,590	81%	19%
Alger	9,497	15.3%	1,450	74%	26%
Allegan	111,742	11.7%	13,050	77%	23%
Alpena	29,399	15.4%	4,520	82%	18%
Antrim	23,504	14.6%	3,420	76%	22%
Arenac	15,753	16.0%	2,520	82%	19%
Baraga	8,787	18.2%	1,800	54%	46%
Barry	59,121	11.6%	6,850	73%	27%
Bay	107,312	13.8%	14,800	74%	26%
Benzie	17,474	14.0%	2,450	74%	26%
Berrien	156,290	16.1%	25,160	77%	23%
Branch	44,398	14.4%	6,410	85%	15%
Calhoun	135,534	15.4%	20,920	80%	21%
Cass	52,212	13.3%	6,940	78%	22%
Charlevoix	28,030	14.5%	3,770	71%	29%
Cheboygan	25,985	16.0%	4,170	84%	16%
Chippewa	38,760	17.3%	6,720	67%	33%
Clare	30,823	17.9%	5,510	86%	14%
Clinton	75,802	11.4%	8,660	59%	41%
Crawford	14,017	15.1%	2,120	75%	25%
Delta	36,967	14.9%	5,500	76%	24%
Dickinson	28,201	12.9%	3,380	81%	19%
Easton	107,920	13.0%	14,040	65%	35%
Emmet	32,858	14.8%	4,810	68%	32%
Genesee	421,575	18.0%	75,960	77%	23%
Gadwin	25,664	16.7%	4,280	81%	19%
Gogebic	16,179	16.8%	2,720	78%	22%
Grand Traverse	88,182	12.9%	11,350	68%	32%
Gratiot	42,148	15.4%	6,510	69%	31%
Hillsdale	46,463	15.2%	7,070	82%	18%
Houghton	36,494	16.9%	6,170	84%	16%
Huron	32,751	14.0%	4,580	81%	19%
Ingham	281,531	16.8%	47,190	73%	28%
Ionia	63,909	13.5%	8,650	74%	26%
Iosco	25,662	16.5%	4,230	79%	21%
Iron	11,723	14.1%	1,660	77%	23%
Isabella	70,400	18.2%	12,780	80%	20%
Jackson	160,126	15.3%	24,580	71%	29%
Kalamazoo	252,763	15.9%	40,080	74%	26%
Kalkaska	17,142	15.1%	2,600	84%	16%
Kent	609,544	13.3%	80,800	73%	27%
Keweenaw	2,181	16.1%	350	76%	24%
Lake	11,485	19.3%	2,220	87%	14%
Lapeer	88,323	13.3%	11,720	68%	32%
Leelanau	21,682	11.8%	2,560	64%	36%
Lenawee	99,505	13.2%	13,110	72%	28%
Livingston	182,402	10.5%	19,170	47%	53%
Luce	6,550	16.8%	1,100	66%	34%
Mackinac	11,099	16.0%	1,780	79%	21%
Macomb	845,197	14.4%	122,030	64%	37%
Manistee	24,626	15.4%	3,800	75%	25%
Marquette	67,358	14.9%	10,010	66%	34%
Mason	26,648	14.6%	4,200	81%	19%
Meosota	43,007	16.7%	7,180	80%	20%
Menominee	23,917	12.8%	3,050	79%	21%
Midland	83,842	13.1%	11,020	67%	33%
Missaukee	14,940	15.5%	2,310	83%	17%

County	Population	Food insecurity rate	Estimated number food insecure individuals (rounded)	Likely Income Eligibility for Federal Nutrition Assistance	
				% below 200% poverty	% above 200% poverty
				SAP, WIC, free school meals, SNAP, etc.	Qualitative Response
Monroe	151,408	12.8%	19,320	66%	34%
Montcalm	63,234	16.8%	9,980	80%	20%
Montmorency	9,598	17.4%	1,670	81%	19%
Muskegon	171,153	16.3%	27,830	82%	18%
Newaygo	48,280	13.6%	6,570	67%	33%
Oakland	1,213,406	13.8%	167,180	54%	46%
Oceana	28,456	14.3%	3,790	93%	7%
Ogemaw	21,537	16.2%	3,490	88%	12%
Ontonagon	6,584	16.4%	1,080	80%	20%
Oscoda	23,404	16.8%	3,930	83%	17%
Oscoda	8,590	17.6%	1,510	86%	14%
Otsego	24,127	14.8%	3,560	67%	33%
Ottawa	267,017	11.0%	29,400	67%	33%
Presque Isle	13,234	16.0%	2,120	73%	27%
Roscommon	24,281	17.3%	4,190	88%	14%
Saginaw	198,841	16.3%	32,380	77%	23%
St. Clair	161,865	15.0%	24,230	70%	30%
St. Joseph	61,111	13.6%	8,310	83%	17%
Sanilac	42,637	14.8%	6,330	82%	18%
Schoolcraft	8,407	17.0%	1,430	78%	22%
Shiawassee	69,910	14.5%	10,110	75%	25%
Tuscola	55,172	14.6%	8,040	75%	25%
Van Buren	75,897	14.1%	10,700	84%	17%
Washtenaw	348,560	14.7%	51,240	80%	40%
Wayne	1,804,507	20.9%	377,630	83%	16%
Westford	32,680	16.6%	5,430	80%	20%
State Total <sup>2</sup>	9,895,622	16.4%	1,623,410	73.9%	26.1%

For additional data and maps by county, state, and congressional district, please visit [www.feedingamerica.org/mapthegap](http://www.feedingamerica.org/mapthegap).

Gundersen, C., A. Stoh, A. Dewey, M. Kato & E. Engelhard. Map the Meal Gap 2015: Food Insecurity and Child Food Insecurity Estimates at the County Level. Feeding America, 2015. This research is generously supported by the Howard G. Buffett Foundation and The Nielsen Company.

<sup>1</sup>Map the Meal Gap's food insecurity rates are determined using data from the 2001-2013 Current Population Survey on individuals in food insecure households; data from the 2013 American Community Survey on median household incomes, poverty rates, homeownership, and race and ethnic demographics; and 2013 data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics on unemployment rates.

<sup>2</sup>Numbers reflect percentage of food insecure individuals living in households with incomes within the income bands indicated. Eligibility for federal nutrition programs is determined in part by these income thresholds which can vary by state.



## Map the Meal Gap 2015:

Overall Food Insecurity in Michigan by Congressional District in 2013<sup>1</sup>



Congressional District	Population	Food insecurity rate	Estimated number food insecure individuals (rounded)	Likely Income Eligibility for Federal Nutrition Assistance <sup>2</sup>	
				% below 200% poverty	% above 200% poverty
				SNAP, WIC, free school meals, OAP, TANF	Charitable Response
1	704,991	14.8%	104,430	75%	25%
2	717,114	13.4%	96,350	77%	23%
3	720,731	14.3%	102,860	73%	27%
4	709,423	15.9%	112,910	73%	27%
5	682,848	18.6%	126,230	81%	19%
6	709,976	15.2%	108,240	75%	25%
7	703,537	14.2%	99,600	66%	34%
8	713,867	13.3%	94,830	60%	41%
9	713,212	15.5%	110,720	69%	31%
10	711,342	12.9%	91,740	62%	38%
11	717,393	10.7%	77,100	48%	53%
12	711,313	16.0%	114,060	68%	32%
13	673,446	29.3%	197,340	95%	6%
14	706,429	26.5%	187,000	81%	20%

For additional data and maps by county, state, and congressional district, please visit [www.feedingamerica.org/mapthegap](http://www.feedingamerica.org/mapthegap).

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## Hunger and Poverty

Hunger and poverty often go hand in hand, but poverty is not the ultimate determinant of food insecurity. People living above the poverty line are often at risk of hunger as well. Research demonstrates that unemployment, rather than poverty, is a better predictor of food insecurity among people living in the United States.

The most recent government data collected shows that in 2012,

- 46.5 million people (15 percent) were in poverty, including 16.1 million (22 percent) children under the age of 18.
- 49 million Americans lived in food-insecure households, including nearly 16 million children.



According to the *Feeding America Hunger in America 2014* study,

- Based on annual income, 72 percent of all Feeding America client households live at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty line.

## **HOUSE BILL 4017 –**

### **LANDFILLS**

According to research by a former University of Arizona anthropologist, Timothy Jones reveals that 40% of all food products in America is not eaten. That amounts to more than 29 million tons of food waste each year, or enough to fill the Rose Bowl every three days. Nationwide, food scraps make up 17 percent of what we send to landfills.

Type of food filling our landfills: perfectly good produce, dairy, meat and bakery items. Wasting food uses time, energy, and resources—both money and oil.

Food rotting in landfills contributes to global warming. When food decomposes it releases methane, a greenhouse gas 21 times more damaging than carbon dioxide. Wet food waste is the main threat to groundwater or stream pollution.

### **PEOPLE IN NEED**

16.8% of the state population is “food insecure people” not knowing where their next meal is coming from or when. Over 1.6 million citizens of the State of Michigan alone go hungry. This is above the national average of 15.9 percent. Children comprise 22.3 percent of the food insecure population.

Source: Feeding America with the generous contribution from The ConAgra Foundation, The Neilson Company and the Howard G. Buffett Foundation

### **INSURE SAFETY**

All food being donated should be prepared by a ServSafe certified kitchen. This ensures that all food will be prepared in a safe time and temperature manner. All food will be cooked or frozen within 24 hours, so can be distributed to people in need safely.

The need is for refrigerated and frozen items i.e. meat, dairy, juice. This is why we need YOUR HELP!

Illustration: A woman who ate out of the dumpster 6 days a week ate donated food from a restaurant and claimed to get sick. It took 4 years to settle the law suit in the restaurant favor, costing the company \$20,000.00 in attorney fees and earned them a bad reputation.

### **WHY WE CARE - Someone HAS to**

We at Passport Pizza received not only the Michigan Award, but also the National Restaurant Association 2014 Good Neighbor Award for doing the most community service in the nation of any restaurant. In our heart we do not want any food to go to waste while 50,000 children in Macomb County are going to bed hungry every night. Meanwhile, thousands of pounds of meat, dairy, produce and bakery items being thrown away due to liability issues. Suppliers are willing to donate if we can pass a law to protect them. We need the milk for the children and proteins.

Passport Pizza was mentioned in the Duke University - Sanford School of Public Policy “Increasing Restaurant Food Donations: A Strategy for Food Waste Diversion” for our part in reducing food waste and providing food for the people in need. We are a conduit for almost 1000 pallets of food last year.

As a Board member of MCREST (Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team) also a Board member of Gateway 2 Glory (Jail ministry with transitional housing, restoring lives and families) I work strongly with Feeding the Need and many other community outreaches and pantries. We are starting to work with DHS in Warren to create changes in this impoverished area to help supply food and support for endangered kids and their parents.